TBOTE Anews

The Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners

August 2017

Next Board Meeting Date
November 3, 2017
Austin, TX

TBOTE BOARD

Stephanie Johnston, OTR, FAOTA, Chair Todd M. Novosad, OTR, Vice Chair DeLana Honaker, OTR, PhD, CLT, FAOTA, Secretary Jennifer B. Clark, COTA Amanda Jean Ellis, Public Member William N. Hale, Public member Sally Harris, COTA Pamela D. Nelon, Public member

Notes from the Coordinator

Sunset Review Update

See page 2 for information regarding the recently completed Sunset Review.

Proposed or Adopted Rule Changes

There were no rule changes adopted or proposed at the Board's most recent meeting.

Refer to the <u>Act and Rule page</u> for information regarding the current rules. For example, changes to Chapter 367, Continuing Education, went into effect June 1, 2017. The <u>Continuing Education page</u> also contains CE resources.

Sunset Review Update: Review Complete and Coming Changes

On June 9, Governor Abbott signed SB 317, the Sunset bill relating to the continuation and functions of the Executive Council of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Examiners (ECPTOTE), the Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners (TBOTE), and the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners (TBPTE). The bill continues ECPTOTE, TBOTE, and TBPTE until 2029 (at which time, they are scheduled for their next Sunset Review).

The text of the bill may be accessed from the link below. http://www.legis.state.tx.us/BillLookup/Text.aspx?LegSess=85R&Bill=SB317

For further information about the Sunset process, visit the Sunset Commission's website at https://www.sunset.texas.gov. From there, a report regarding the Board's Sunset review is also available: https://www.sunset.texas.gov/reviews-and-reports/agencies/texas-board-occupational-therapy-examiners.

At upcoming meetings, the Board will address changes required by the bill.

Some of the coming changes will include mandated fingerprint-based criminal history background checks, which all applicants and licensees will be required to complete. *The Board will provide information regarding these checks once the process begins.*

A further change is that *facility de-regulation will not take effect until September 1, 2019*. Until that time, occupational therapy facilities still must be registered with the Board. Refer to Chapter 376, Registration of Facilities, and the full OT Act and Rules for further regulations.

The Board will publish information regarding such upcoming changes through mass emails and information on the ECPTOTE website, including updates to the homepage, the Board's Act and Rules and Newsletters webpages, etc. The Board may mail information, as well. As always, be sure to monitor your email and mail for correspondence, in addition to the Board's website.

To ensure you receive any updates regarding coming changes, be sure the Board has your current information. Licensees are required to update the Board of certain changes such as those related to contact information within thirty days of the change. Refer to §369.2 of the OT Rules for further information.

How to Keep the Board Informed of Contact Information Changes

If you are an applicant or licensee of or own a facility registered with TBOTE (or are an individual who has signed up to be included on the Board's mass email sign-up list) and you have not received a mass email from the Board this month with this newsletter, please update your email address. In general, mass emails are sent approximately every two to four months. Please monitor your email inbox to ensure you consistently receive mass emails.

If you are receiving mass emails (for example, those concerning proposed or adopted rule changes, newsletters, upcoming renewal dates if applicable, etc.), that means the Board has a

working email address for you so there is no need to update it and remember that licensees, applicants, and facility owners/designees do not need to sign up to receive mass emails. In addition, you may be receiving emails, but they may be in your junk/spam folder. Be sure to check this folder and if any of the Board's emails are there, review your email settings and ensure you have emailOT@ptot.texas.gov as one of your safe senders.

Occupational Therapy Applicants or Licensees:

If just your email address needs to be updated, from the sidebar menu on the homepage of the website, select "Contact Us" and in the message, include your name, application or license type (and license number if you have one), and that you are writing to update your email address and then include such. If your other contact information such as phone number or mailing address needs to be updated because it has changed since the last time you submitted it (for example, during your last renewal), use the "Change Contact Info" link instead. From that link, you can update your home, work, mailing, and email address, etc.

OT Registered Facility Applicants or Owners/Designees:

To update your information, send an email to info@ptot.texas.gov with your name, title/designation, and facility name(s) and registration number(s), and note that you are writing to update your email address or any other contact information and then include such.

NOT an applicant or licensee or a registered facility applicant or owner/designee: If you are another individual who has signed up for the mass email list and you are not receiving emails, sign up with another email address using this link.

When submitting your contact information to the Board, for example, during the application or renewal process, through our online forms, etc., please ensure that you have entered your information correctly and remember to review for errors. For example, check that you have used a period after your email provider ("gmail.com" not "gmail,com"), that your email user name is spelled correctly, that your phone number and address(es) are correct, etc.

Note that certain email accounts may be temporary for the user or may block mass emails. For example, accounts with an employer or through an educational institution you have attended may not exist past an employment or graduation date or may have filters or settings that block mass emails such as those sent by the Board.

CE Reminder

As per §367.3(c) of the OT Rules, "The licensee is solely responsible for keeping accurate documentation of all continuing education requirements. Continuing education documentation must be maintained for two years from the date of the last renewal for auditing purposes."

Consider strategies to enhance your access to your stored CE documentation by creating a back-up system such as keeping a second copy in a different location. This way, if you are randomly selected for the OT CE Audit or otherwise must access your materials, you will have more than one method to do so.

For example, consider keeping electronic copies of your documentation in addition to the physical copies. If you scan your CE documentation and email yourself the file, you will have a copy you can access from any internet connection, regardless of your location or the physical condition of your documents.



OT BOARD FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS TAKEN AUGUST 18, 2017 BOARD MEETING:

- (1) Kirsty Purifoy, OTR #110176 (Dallas) failed to properly renew her license to practice; lacked sufficient number or type of hours required for license renewal. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. *Board Order required eight (8) hours of community service.*
- (2) Jessica O'Connell, OTR #116546 (Spring) failed to properly renew her license to practice; lacked sufficient number or type of hours required for license renewal. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. *Board Order required sixty (60) hours of community service.*
- (3) Angela Baughman, COTA #208438 (Houston) failed to properly renew her license to practice; lacked sufficient number or type of hours required for license renewal. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 367 of the board rules. Board Order suspended her license to practice for sixty (60) days.
- (4) Jason Gutierrez, COTA #212993 (San Antonio) practiced in a detrimental manner by practicing with an expired license. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. *Board Order required eight (8) hours of community service.*
- (5) Keri Kuhn, COTA #213738 (Davenport, FL) practiced in a detrimental manner by inaccurately documenting treatment rendered. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. *Board Order required sixty (60) hours of community service.*
- (6) Eyvonnia McCrary-Taylor, OTR #104260 (Fort Worth) practiced in a detrimental manner by inaccurately documenting treatment rendered. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. Board Order suspended her license to practice for thirty (30) days.
- (7) Flor Chapa, COTA #210377 (San Antonio) practiced in a detrimental manner by inaccurately documenting treatment rendered. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. Board Order suspended her license to practice for thirty (30) days.
- (8) Cedric Malone, COTA #213108 (Memphis, TN) practiced in a detrimental manner by inaccurately documenting treatment rendered. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. *Board Order suspended his license to practice for thirty (30) days.*
- (9) Markiest Sanders, COTA #211569 (Little Elm) practiced in a detrimental manner by inaccurately documenting treatment rendered. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. *Board Order suspended his license to practice for thirty (30) days.*
- (10) Diana Alvarez, COTA #211688 (San Antonio) practiced in a detrimental manner by inaccurately documenting treatment rendered. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. Board Order suspended her license to practice for thirty (30) days.

- (11) Hasina Magharibi, COTA #203346 (Houston) practiced in a detrimental manner by inaccurately documenting treatment rendered. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. Board Order suspended her license to practice for ninety (90) days.
- (12) Steffanie Bourdeaux, OTR #105100 (Houston) practiced in a detrimental manner by inaccurately documenting treatment rendered. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and chapter 374 of the board rules. Board Order suspended her license to practice for ninety (90) days.
- (13) Ana Sanchez, COTA #209131 (McAllen) pled guilty to felony *Intoxication Assault*. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and Section 53.021 of the Texas Occupations Code. *Board Order revoked her license to practice*.
- (14) Chuck Chambers, OTR #106596 (Abilene) pled guilty to felony *Driving While Intoxicated*. Violation of Section 454.301 of the Act and Section 53.021 of the Texas Occupations Code. *Board Order revoked his license to practice*.